

May 1, 1972

Sargent Shriver
The Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation
1701 K Street, Northwest, Suite 205
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Sarge:

Thank you for your letter of April 1 (only just received), with its news of the Kennedy Institute. I have also been in touch with Andre Hellegers during the past several months in connection with our inconclusive plans to share Karl Popper as a visiting professor.

My concerns about sectarian specificity would be no less for a program centered at Yeshiva University. In the long run it will, of course, be the breadth of vision of the individual minds that matters - not the stereotype of Catholic or Jewish.

I will try to think of such minds to recommend to you. I do not know if I can (or would focus on trying to) identify Jewish ethicists; but I will try to characterize independent thinkers.

Two of the most prominent are Nicholas Rescher (University of Pittsburgh) and George Henrik von Wright (Helsinki). If nothing else, I would urge that you recruit them for the Board of the Georgetown-Kennedy project.

We are still working on a proposal from Stanford. One early fruit of our discussions will be the course, to be listed in the Human Biology program for 1972-3 indicated in the attachment. But Professor Schwartz has too many other claims on his time ~~in the future~~ Philosophy Department to be able to release him for this offering as a regular matter, and we will be seeking financial support to recruit another professor in this area.

A note of encouragement from you, which does not have to carry any explicit commitments for funding at this time, would be very helpful in my negotiations with the Philosophy Department and the University.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

JL:mf

Enclosures

SHRIVER, Sargent